

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY  
Sunday, September 27th 2020

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Dear Friends

These are disorientating and anxious times for most of us. We are now in the geographical area of a new “lockdown” and there is every possibility that with the “second wave” of the coronavirus things may well get worse before they get better. I certainly don’t say this to add to your sense of sadness or struggle but it is important to be honest and real. There is also a parallel situation now for us as a church. Very many of you have written movingly to me thanking me and my family for our ministry here as we have announced our leave-taking. I have tried to reply to you all, and I am deeply grateful for all the kind words that have been written and spoken, and the graciousness and thankfulness expressed. However, I am far from immune to the sense of deep uncertainty and anxiety that this also brings for many of you. In biblical terms, our Bishop Nick summed much of this up in the Ad Clerum he sent on Thursday of this week following the Prime Minister’s recent announcement:

*When the pandemic began and we went into lockdown in March I indicated that the collapse of our diaries, routines and assumptions about life and ministry brought us into line with the experience – the normality – of most people across the planet. The stripping away of these assumptions and certainties is painful, but can also be a gift. We are not now in a temporarily changed world; we are in a different one and we are all in the same place. First, a bit of Bible*

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*When the people of Israel were led out from over 400 years of captivity in Egypt they had to spend 40 years in the desert learning to let go and prepare. They had to let go of expectations of what life might hold, however good or bad that might have been. They had to lose patterns of living, communing, worshipping and organising. As we know, their first instinct was to go back to what they had known – romanticising the past, being disorientated in the present and fearing the future. And all of this was natural. Which was why they needed a generation in the middle of nowhere before they could be ready to enter a new land and establish ways of living together that were significantly different from what they had hitherto known.*

Where do we go from here? There are now almost three months exactly to the conclusion of my ministry amongst you. These will be important days for us to think and plan together for future ministry in this place. In the coming weeks I shall try to write about some of these in this weekly newsletter. I shall try to do this above all to encourage us, to give us a sense of vision and hope about where the coming processes and vacancy may lead, and the renewed transformation that can bring. I hope over the last thirteen years we have, under God, shown what is possible when we listen to the Holy Spirit, and then roll up our sleeves and join in! There have always been “the murmurings of the people of Israel”. Moses had to put up with them, and there will always be those in any community who choose the self-indulgence of the same cul-de-sac. Rather, the biblical model shows us that through the desert experience of “betwixt and between” a new future will emerge when we show our faithfulness to God.

Today, I want to invite those of you who are anxious and have specific questions about what is going to happen at St Margaret’s to be in contact with me. Our present “lockdown” means our normal means of being together, meeting and talking to each other, are mostly cut off. For some while now I have had to limit my physical visiting to those whose needs are acute, or who are approaching the end of their lives and need the specific ministry of a priest. This is continuing but the new lockdown rules mean I have to be especially careful not to become a person who can transmit the virus to others or from place to place. So please do contact me if you have particular concerns and I will try to address them as honestly as I can: if you prefer to write either physically or by e-mail, then please do so; if you prefer to telephone, then I may or may not be able to answer immediately, but if you leave a voicemail and a number to call I will get back to you as soon as I can.

With my prayers, Fr. Philip

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## **Sunday “Coffee Time”**

Please join us on Sunday, September 27th for our virtual "coffee time". The meeting details are below.

Topic: St Margaret's Coffee Meeting

Time: September 27th, 2020 11:30 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/7586081733?pwd=bFVnZ1dpbzFPN3h5aVpVbmJmank4QT09>

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### **Let Us Pray**

Loving God,  
we seek your presence  
in the silence beyond words  
looking to you for comfort,  
strength, protection and reassurance  
breathing with gratitude  
holding on to hope  
trusting with faith  
that you are still God  
in the midst of an uncertain world  
and that your love reaches  
to the ends of the earth.  
Be present with us now.

**Amen**

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**Private Prayer at St. Margaret's**

**Monday to Thursday**

**9.30 am - 11.30 am**

**St Margaret's is open for individual private prayer on Monday to Thursday mornings between 9.30am and 11.30am.**

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# ST. MARGARET'S ILKLEY

## Services on

Sunday 27th September

### THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10.00am Said Mass in Church

Booking is essential through the Parish Office  
stmargaretschurchpa@gmail.com.

This service will NOT be live-streamed

10:30am YouTube Premiere: Sung Mass  
from the temporary Chapel in the Vicarage

Sunday 4th October

### HARVEST THANKSGIVING

10.00am Said Mass in Church

Booking is essential through the Parish Office  
stmargaretschurchpa@gmail.com.

This service will NOT be live-streamed

10:30am YouTube Premiere: Sung Mass  
from the temporary Chapel in the Vicarage



With Vicar  
Canon Philip Gray

Live Services and Daily Reflections available on Facebook and YouTube.

Search for @StMargaretsChurchIlkley.

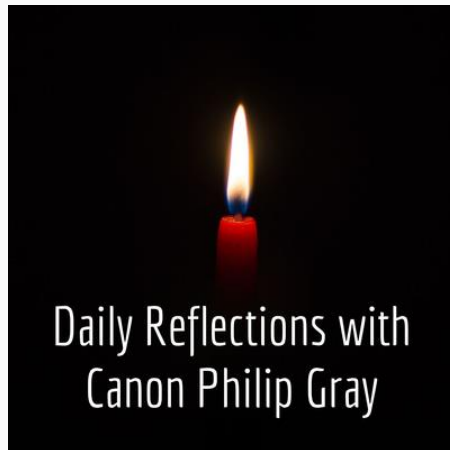
Daily Reflection podcasts available on the Parish Website and all good podcast  
streaming platforms.

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Full details for public worship can be found here:

[https://mcusercontent.com/ba3ec307ede7e24cd60c47953/files/c6b4e0a3-5f95-4186-bfda-b7efdc7e4dad/Public\\_Worship\\_Prep\\_Doc\\_July\\_20\\_Pub2.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/ba3ec307ede7e24cd60c47953/files/c6b4e0a3-5f95-4186-bfda-b7efdc7e4dad/Public_Worship_Prep_Doc_July_20_Pub2.pdf)

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Fr Philip's reflections in his series of podcasts include considerations of selected Bible passages, as well as thoughts and prayers during this challenging time. Using the link below, you can post a message to Fr Philip with your thoughts. Simply click on the 'leave a message' button to record your message.

<https://anchor.fm/stmargaretsilkley/>

'Daily Reflections' is also available on your favourite podcast streaming apps including Google and Apple Podcasts, Spotify and many more. You can also access it on the Parish Website on the link below:

<https://www.stmargaretsilkley.org/podcast-daily-reflections-canon-philip-gray>



### **EcoExtravaganza 2020: What on Earth are we going to do?**

**Thursday 24th – Sunday 27th September**

**Bradford Cathedral** is now running its four-day online festival covering a range of live events, pre-recorded videos and a special Harvest Festival service exploring the question 'What on Earth are we going to do?' about the environmental issues of the day. The festival features a keynote event each day as well as pre-recorded videos scheduled up across the weekend which can be watched live or later via the cathedral's website, social media channels or YouTube. For more information about the sessions and how to sign up go to <https://www.bradfordcathedral.org/whats-on/eco-extravaganza/>

Thank you to everyone who supported this month's Organ Recital. The first for a while! Your generosity raised £150 for the Choir Fund.

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 **ST. MARGARET'S**  
**ILKLEY** Queen's Road, Ilkley

**Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup> 12.30pm**

**Organ Recital by  
Christopher Rathbone**

**Louis Vierne (born 1870)**

**150<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert**

**Pièces de Fantaisie**

**Aubade, Resignation, Cloches de Hinckley**

**Widor (born 1844)**

**Four pieces from 'Bach Memento'**

**We are limited to 40 people, so please book at**

**[stmargaretschurchpa@gmail.com](mailto:stmargaretschurchpa@gmail.com)**

**including your email or phone number.**

**At the recital wear a face mask and observe social distancing**

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## Practical Support and Help

**Ilkley and District Good Neighbours** provides a range of support and practical help during coronavirus to include shopping, a regular phone call, collecting prescriptions and other help needed. If you need help call 07375 803693 or fill in this online form <https://bit.ly/ilkleycorona>  
For more information go to <https://goodneighboursilkley.org.uk/>

**Ilkley and Wharfedale Medical Practice request use of face coverings** when attending an appointment at the medical centre.

**Ilkley Library.** To reserve books from the online catalogue and for the Home Library Service – [ilkley.library@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:ilkley.library@bradford.gov.uk) 01943 436225

**Ilkley Chat** provides the latest news affecting Ilkley as a result of COVID-19 <https://www.ilkleychat.co.uk/coronavirus> This link also provides details of **food delivery services** offered by supermarkets. Contact Alison Stretton on 01943 430024 or Vickie Kemp at [stmargaretschurchpa@gmail.com](mailto:stmargaretschurchpa@gmail.com) for more information.

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**During this difficult time it is important to keep in touch with friends. Please do feel you can call a member of our church family who will be pleased to hear from you.**

Fr Philip	01943 607210
Fr Bernard	01943 816253
Fr Godfrey	01943 603861
Jane Sheldon	01943 431288
Helen Buswell	01943 608146
Linda Whittaker	01943 601144
Alison Stretton	01943 430024

**Daily Hope, is a 24 hour free phone line for Christian worship and prayer. Call 0800 804 8044.**